

Amendments to the Abstract:

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is proposed for the estimating of the residual service life of an apparatus which is subjected to ~~a wear~~ wear during operation, ~~with the following steps: a) for~~ steps. For at least one characteristic parameter (T) which is sensitive to the wear (V), a relationship is determined to a time parameter (A) which is representative for the operating ~~period;~~ period, and a limit value (G) is fixed for the characteristic parameter (T) which gives the maximum permitted ~~wear;~~ wear. A code field (KF) is established which gives a relationship between the characteristic parameter (T), the time parameter (A) and the wear ~~(V);~~ (V), actual values are determined for the characteristic parameter (T) in dependence on the time parameter (A) with the aid of data obtained by a ~~measurement;~~ measurement, and the instantaneously present wear (V) is determined from the actual values with reference in each case to the code field ~~(KF);~~ (KF). Starting from the instantaneous actual value of the characteristic parameter (T), a determination is made by means of extrapolation to the limit value (G) of the end value of the time parameter (A) for which the maximum permitted wear is ~~reached;~~ reached, and the residual service life (RL) is estimated by a comparison of this end value with the value for the time parameter which belongs to the instantaneously present wear.

(Fig. 3)